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Mexico

FAIRS Product Specific

Modification to NOM-008-FITO-1995 (Requirements to Import Tomatoes from the U.S.)

2006

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Report Highlights:

On July 6, 2006, the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fishery and Food (SAGARPA) published a modification to NOM-008-FITO-1995 "Establishing requirements and phytosanitary specifications to import fruits and vegetables". Specifically the leaf tolerance requirement on imported tomatoes from the U.S. was eliminated.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Mexico [MX1]
[MX]

Introduction: This report summarizes an announcement from the Secretariat of Agriculture published in Mexico's "*Diario Oficial*" (Federal Register) on July 6, 2006.

Disclaimer: This summary is based on a *cursory* review of the subject announcement and therefore should not, under any circumstances, be viewed as a definitive reading of the regulation in question, or of its implications for U.S. agricultural export trade interests. In the event of a discrepancy or discrepancies between this summary and the complete regulation or announcement as published in Spanish, the latter shall prevail.

Title: Modification to the Mexican Official rule NOM-008-FITO-1995, Establishing requirements and phytosanitary specifications to import fruits and vegetables.

FAS/Mexico's Executive Summary: The Secretariat of Agriculture (SAGARPA) announced in the *Diario Oficial* (Federal Register), on July 6, 2006, modifications to NOM-008, specifically for imported tomatoes from the United States. After several negotiations with SAGARPA a modification was accepted to change the import requirements on tomatoes where the leaf tolerance requirement was eliminated. Previously the regulation could only accept a maximum of 5 percent of leafs or 5 leafs per 100 tomatoes.

Therefore, the requirement 4.3 of the regulation was modified as follows:

Requirement Number	Product	Country of Origin	Additional Requirements	Ports of Entry
H071	Tomato	U.S.	The international phytosanitary certificate will indicate that" the product of this shipment comes from areas that are not regulated (quarantined) for fruit fly of quarantine importance."	All points of entry

According to the announcement, during the past nine years that NOM-008 has been in force, there were no phytosanitary problems detected caused by the presence of leafs in tomatoes, indicating that there is a rigorous process of selection and packing that does not represent a phytosanitary risk for Mexico.

Important Dates

1. **Publication Date:** July 6, 2006
2. **Effective Date:** July 7, 2006

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Internet Connections

FAS Mexico Web Site: We are available at www.fas-la.com or visit headquarter's home page at www.fas.usda.gov for a complete selection of FAS' worldwide agricultural reporting.

Useful Mexican Web Sites: Mexico's equivalent of the Department of Agriculture (SAGARPA) can be found at www.sagarpa.gob.mx and Mexico's equivalent of the Department of Commerce (SE) can be found at www.economia.gob.mx. These websites are mentioned for the readers' convenience but USDA does NOT in any way endorse, guarantee the accuracy of, or necessarily concur with the information contained on the mentioned sites.